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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/664,579	09/17/2003	Gregory Clegg Spooner	14053.41.0	3671

22859 7590 01/05/2006

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EXAMINER

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ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1744

DATE MAILED: 01/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

1. The reply filed on 06 December 2005 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s):

The scope of independent claims 1 and 7 cannot be clearly and accurately determined with respect to drawing Figs. 1 and 2.

In claim 1, line 3, it appears "lowermost regions" should read –lowermost region-. On lines 4-5, the recitation that the deflecting means extend into the bristles at an angular distance **behind** the point at which the bristles touch the surface to be cleaned makes the scope unclear and inaccurate with respect to what is disclosed. Viewing Fig. 1, the left part of Fig. 1 is the "front" of the housing 4 and the right part of Fig. 1 shows the "rear" of housing 4. Therefore, it is not understood how the deflecting means are **behind** the point at which the bristles touch the surface to be cleaned. It would instead appear that the deflecting means are **in front of** the point at which the bristles touch the surface to be cleaned given the already disclosed arrangement.

In claim 7, line 6, it appears inaccurate to recite that the rotary brush is provided proximate the dirt receiving opening "**on one side thereof**" since viewing Fig. 1, the rotary brush is actually positioned or located **within** the dirt receiving opening. In Fig. 1, it does appear that the central support 26 of the brush 10 is on one side of the dirt receiving opening but not the rotary brush itself. Furthermore, the recitation on lines 9-10 makes the scope of the claim unclear. Specifically, the recitation that the deflector is provided adjacent the brush "on an opposite side of the brush to the dirt receiving opening" is not understood. In Fig. 1, the deflector is **at** the dirt receiving opening and not on an opposite side of the brush to the dirt receiving opening.

Appropriate correction is required.

2. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the Examiner should be directed to Randall Chin whose telephone number is (571) 272-1270. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the Examiner are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Richard Crispino, can be reached at (571) 272-1226. The number for Technology Center 1700 is (571) 272-1700.

The central fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



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Art Unit 1744